



Patent
Attorney Docket No. 033462-037

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Darko PERVAN

Application No.: 10/730,131

Filing Date: December 9, 2003

Title: FLOORBOARDS, FLOORING SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MANUFACTURING AND
INSTALLATION THEREOF

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

**FIRST
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a FIRST Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- ☒ No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- ☐ The fee of \$180.00 (1806) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (1806) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.
- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

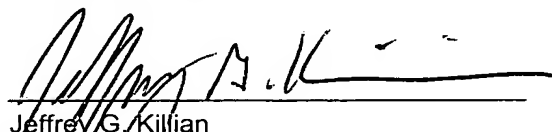
Respectfully submitted,

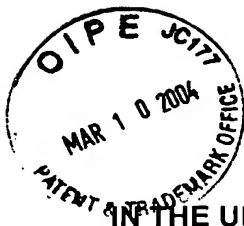
BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: March 10, 2004

By


Jeffrey G. Killian
Registration No. 50,891



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
Darko PERVAN)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/730,131)	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: December 9, 2003)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
For: FLOORBOARDS, FLOORING)	
SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR)	
MANUFACTURING AND)	
INSTALLATION THEREOF)	

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since these documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement is required.

In addition to the published copending applications listed in the accompanying Form PTO-1449, the Examiner's attention is also directed to copending application numbers 09/714,514 naming Darko Pervan as inventor and filed on November 17, 2000, 10/768,677 naming Darko Pervan as inventor and filed on February 2, 2004 and 10/708,314 naming

Darko Pervan as inventor and filed on February 24, 2004, and the documents cited therein.
A copy of each of the applications is enclosed.

 In accordance with MPEP § 609 III C(2) (August 2001, page 600-131), the Office is requested to return a copy of this Information Disclosure Statement with the Examiner's initials adjacent to this paragraph indicating that this copending application has been considered. By citation to the copending application, confidentiality is not waived and the Office is requested to maintain the confidentiality of the copending application under 35 U.S.C. § 122.

The documents being submitted all relate to joined panels and/or joined flooring. Applicant asserts that the relevance of each document can be ascertained at least from the drawing figures.

In addition, the following statements of relevance are provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(3)(i):

DE19651149 relates to the use of a sealing agent to obtain a better seal between adjacent panels;

DE2252643 relates to the use of spring clips 5 to keep adjacent panels together;

DE3214207 relates to a method of producing panels with a tongue and groove joint system;

DE4002547 relates to thermally insulating panels which are mounted with their edges in an overlapping position, the overlapping portions being undulated.

In regards to the non-English language documents being submitted and not discussed above, Applicant respectfully asserts that the relevance of each document can be ascertained from the drawing figures accompanying each document.

In addition, Applicant submits herewith a copy of each of the International Search Report and the Search Report from the Swedish Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application. Some of the information cited therein is not in the English language. However, in accordance with MPEP § 609 III A(3), an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted herewith.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

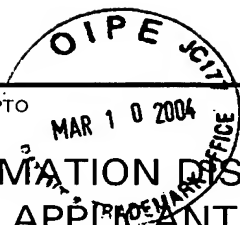
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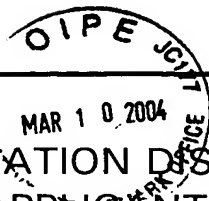


Substitute for form 1449A/PTO FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE BY APPLICANT	ATTORNEY'S DKT No. 033462-037	APPLICATION No. 10/730,131
	APPLICANT Darko PERVAN	
	FILING DATE December 9, 2003	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	213,740		CONNER	04-01-1879
	714,987		WOLFE	12-02-1902
	753,791		FULGHUM	03-01-1904
	1,124,228		HOUSTON	01-05-1915
	1,371,856		CADE	03-15-1921
	1,407,679		RUTHRAUFF	02-21-1922
	1,454,250		PARSONS	05-08-1923
	1,468,288		EEN	09-18-1923
	1,477,813		DANIELS et al.	12-18-1923
	1,510,924		DANIELS et al.	10-07-1924
	1,540,128		HOUSTON	06-02-1925

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	713,628		Australia	01-07-1998		
	200020703	A1	Australia	06-01-2000		
	417526		Belgium	09-19-1936		X
	0557844		Belgium	06-15-1957		X
	1010339	A3	Belgium	06-02-1998	X	
	1010487	A6	Belgium	10-06-1998	X	
	0,991,373		Canada	06-22-1976		
	2,226,286		Canada (Abstract only)	12-18-1997		
	2,252,791		Canada (Abstract only)	05-25-1999		
	2,289,309		Canada (Abstract only)	07-18-2000		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
	Webster's Dictionary, Random House: New York (1987), p. 862.		
	Knight's American Mechanical Dictionary, Hurd and Houghton: New York (1876), p. 2051.		
	Opposition EP 0.698,162 B1 - Facts-Grounds-Arguments, dated April 1, 1999, pp. 1-56		
	Opposition II EP 0.698,162 B1 - Facts-Grounds-Arguments, dated April 30, 1999, (17 pages) - with translation (11 pages).		
	Opposition I: Unilin Decor N.V./Välinge Aluminum AB, communication dated June 8, 1999 to European Patent Office, pp. 1-2.		
	Opposition I: Unilin Decor N.V./Välinge Aluminum AB, communication dated June 16, 1999 to European Patent Office, pp. 1-2.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	



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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)		
	Number	Kind Code (if known)				
	1,575,821		DANIELS	03-09-1926		
	1,602,256		SELLIN	10-05-1926		
	1,602,267		KARWISCH	10-05-1926		
	1,615,096		MEYERS	01-18-1927		
	1,622,103		FULTON	03-22-1927		
	1,622,104		FULTON	03-22-1927		
	1,637,634		CARTER	08-02-1927		
	1,644,710		CROOKS	10-11-1927		
	1,660,480		DANIELS	02-28-1928		
	1,714,738		SMITH	05-28-1929		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	0 248 127	A1	EPO	12-09-1987		
	0 623 724	A1	EPO	11-09-1994		
	0 652 340	A1	EPO	05-10-1995		
	0 690 185	A1	EPO	01-30-1996	Abst	
	0 698 162	B1	EPO	02-28-1996		
	0 843 763	B1	EPO	05-27-1998		
	0 849 416	A2	EPO	06-24-1998		
	0 855 482	B1	EPO	07-29-1998		
	0 877 130	B1	EPO	11-11-1998		
	0 903 451	A2	EPO	03-24-1999		
NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
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	FI Office Action dated March 19, 1998.					
	NO Office Action dated December 22, 1997.					
	NO Office Action dated September 21, 1998.					
	Opposition EP 0.877.130 B1 - Facts - Arguments, dated June 28, 2000, pp. 1-13.					
	RU Application Examiner Letter dated September 26, 1997.					
	NZ Application Examiner Letter dated October 21, 1999.					
	European prosecution file history to grant, European Patent No. 94915725.9 - 2303/0698162, grant date September 16, 1998.					
	European prosecution file history to grant, European Patent No. 98106535.2-2303/0855482, grant date December 1, 1999.					
	European prosecution file history to grant, European Patent No. 98201555.4-2303/0877130, grant date January 26, 2000.					
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

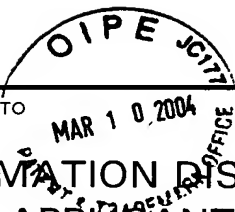


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	APPLICANT Darko PERVAN	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	1,718,702		PFIESTER	06-25-1929
	1,734,826		PICK	11-05-1929
	1,764,331		MORATZ	06-17-1930
	1,778,069		FETZ	10-14-1930
	1,787,027		WASLEFF	12-30-1930
	1,823,039		GRUNER	09-15-1931
	1,859,667		GRUNER	05-24-1932
	1,898,364		GYNN	02-21-1933
	1,906,411		POTVIN	05-02-1933
	1,929,871		JONES	10-10-1933
	1,940,377		STORM	12-19-1933

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Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	0 958 441		EPO	11-06-1998		
	0 969 163	A2	EPO	01-05-2000		
	0 969 163	A3	EPO	01-05-2000		
	0 969 164	A2	EPO	01-05-2000		
	0 969 164	A3	EPO	01-05-2000		
	0 974 713	A1	EPO	01-26-2000		
	1 048 423	A2	EPO	11-02-2000		
	1 120 515	A1	EPO	08-01-2001		
	1 146 182	A2	EPO	10-17-2001		
	1 251 219	A1	EPO	10-23-2002		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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	Communication of Notices of Intervention by E.F.P. Floor Products dated March 17, 2000 in European Patent Application 0698162, pages 1-11 with annex pages 1-21.		
	Response to the E.F.P. Floor Products intervention dated June 28, 2000, pages 1-5.		
	Letters from the Opponent dated July 26, 2001 and July 30, 2001 including Annexes 1 to 3.		
	Communication from European Patent Office dated September 20, 2001 in European Patent No. 0698162, pages 1-2 with Facts and Submissions Annex pages 1-18, Minutes Annex pages 1-11, and Annex I to VI.		
	Communication from Swedish Patent Office dated September 21, 2001 in Swedish Patent No. 9801986-2, pages 1-3 in Swedish with forwarding letter dated September 24, 2001 in English.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	



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	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	1,953,306		MORATZ	04-03-1934
	1,986,739		MITTE	01-01-1935
	1,988,201		HALL	01-15-1935
	2,044,216		KLAGES	06-16-1936
	2,266,464		KRAFT	12-16-1941
	2,276,071		SCULL	03-10-1942
	2,324,62,8		KÄHR	07-20-1943
	2,398,632		FROST et al.	04-16-1946
	2,430,200		WILSON	11-04-1947
	2,740,167		ROWLEY	04-03-1956
	2,780,253		JOA	02-05-1957
	2,894,292		GRAMELSPACHER	07-14-1959

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	843060		Finland	08-02-1984		X
	1 293 043		France	04-02-1962		X
	2 568 295		France	01-31-1986		X
	2 630 149		France	10-20-1989		X
	2 637 932	A 1	France	04-20-1990	Abst	
	2 675 174		France	10-16-1992		X
	2 691 491		France	11-26-1993		X
	2 697 275		France	04-29-1994		X
	2 712 329	A 1	France	05-19-1995	Abst	
	2 781 513	A 1	France	01-28-2000	Abst	
	2 785 633	A 1	France	05-12-2000	Abst	
	2 810 060	A 1	France	12-14-2001		X

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	"Välinge, Fibro-Trespo Brochure, Distributed at the Domotex Fair In Hannover, Germany, January 1996.		
	Träindustrins Handbok "Snickeriarbete", 2nd Edition, Malmö 1952, pp. 826, 827, 854, and 855, published by Teknografiska Aktiebolaget, Sweden.		
	"Träbearbetning", Anders Grönlund, 1986, ISBN 91-970513-2-2, pp. 357-360, published by Institutet for Trateknisk Forskning, Stockholm, Sweden.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	2,947,040		SCHULTZ	08-02-1960
	3,045,294		LIVEZEY, JR.	07-24-1962
	3,100,556		DE RIDDER	08-13-1963
	3,125,138		BOLENBACH	03-17-1964
	3,182,769		DE RIDDER	05-11-1965
	3,203,149		SODDY	08-31-1965
	3,267,630		OMHOLT	08-23-1966
	3,282,010		KING, JR.	11-01-1966
	3,310,919		BUE et al.	03-28-1967
	3,347,048		BROWN et al.	10-17-1967
	3,387,422		WANZER	06-11-1968

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	1 212 275		Germany	03-10-1966		X
	1 534 278		Germany	11-18-1971		X
	7102476		Germany	01-23-1971		X
	7402354		Germany	01-24-1974		X
	2 205 232		Germany	08-16-1973		X
	2 238 660		Germany	02-07-1974		X
	2 252 643		Germany	05-02-1974		X
	2 502 992		Germany	07-29-1976	Abs.	
	2 616 077		Germany	10-27-1977		X
	2 917 025		Germany	11-27-1980		X

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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	Drawing Figure 25/6107 from Buetec GmbH dated December 16, 1985.		
	Pamphlet from Serexhe for Compact-Praxis, entitled "Selbst Teppichböden, PVC und Parkett verlegen", Published by Compact Verlag, München, Germany 1985, pp. 84-87.		
	Pamphlet from Junckers Industrser A/S entitled "Bøjlesystemet til Junckers boliggulve" October 1994, , Published by Junckers Industrser A/S, Denmark.		
	Pamphlet from Junckers Industrser A/S entitled "The Clip System for Junckers Sports Floors", Annex 7, 1994, Published by Junckers Industrser A/S, Denmark.		
	Pamphlet from Junckers Industrser A/S entitled "The Clip System for Junckers Domestic Floors", Annex 8, 1994, Published by Junckers Industrser A/S, Denmark.		
	Fibo-Trespo Alloc System Brochure entitled "Opplæring OG Autorisasjon", pp. 1-29, Fibo-Trespo.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE BY APPLICANT

ATTORNEY'S DKT No.
033462-037

APPLICATION No.
10/730,131

APPLICANT:
Darko PERVAN

FILING DATE
December 9, 2003

GROUP
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

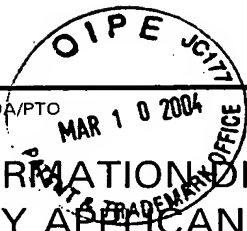
Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	3,460,304		BRAEUNINGER et al.	08-12-1969
	3,481,810		WAITE	12-02-1969
	3,526,420		BRANCALCONE	09-01-1970
	3,538,665		GOHNER	11-10-1970
	3,553,919		OMHOLT	01-12-1971
	3,555,762		COSTANZO, JR.	01-19-1971
	3,694,983		COUQUET	10-03-1972
	3,714,747		CURRAN	02-06-1973
	3,731,445		HOFFMANN et al.	05-08-1973
	3,759,007		THIELE	09-18-1973

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	30 41781	A1	Germany	06-24-1982	Abs.	
	32 14 207	A1	Germany	11-18-1982	Abst	
	32 46 376	C2	Germany	06-20-1984		X
	33 43 601	A1	Germany	06-13-1985	X	
	86 04 004		Germany	06-12-1986		X
	35 12 204	A1	Germany	10-16-1986		X
	35 38 538	A1	Germany	10-30-1985	Abs.	
	35 44 845	A1	Germany	06-19-1987	Abs.	
	36 31 390	A1	Germany	12-03-1987		X
	40 02 547	A1	Germany	08-01-1991		X
	41 30 115	A1	Germany	09-11-1991	Abs.	
	41 34 452	A1	Germany	04-22-1993		X
	42 15 273	A1	Germany	11-18-1993		X

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
	"Revolution bei der Laminatboden-Verl", boden wand decke, Vol. No. 11 of 14, January 10, 1997, p. 166.
	Kährs Focus Extra dated January 2001, pp. 1-9.
	Brochure for CLIC Laminat Flooring, Art.-Nr. 110 11 640.
	Brochure for Laminat-Boden "Clever-Click", Parador® Wohnsysteme.
	Brochure for PERGO®, CLIC Laminat Flooring, and Prime Laminat Flooring from Bauhaus, The Home Store, Malmö, Sweden.
Examiner Signature	Date Considered



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
BY APPLICANT**ATTORNEY'S DKT NO.
033462-037APPLICATION NO.
10/730,131APPLICANT
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December 9, 2003GROUP
Unassigned**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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	3,768,846		HENSLEY et al.	10-30-1973
	3,786,608		BOETTCHER	01-22-1974
	3,859,000		WEBSTER	01-07-1975
	3,902,293		WITT et al.	09-02-1975
	3,908,053		HETTICH	09-23-1975
	3,936,551		ELMENDORF et al.	02-03-1976
	3,988,187		WITT ET AL.	10-26-1976
	4,037,377		HOWELL et al.	07-26-1977
	4,090,338		BOURGADE	05-23-1978
	4,099,358		COMPAAN	07-11-1978
	4,100,710		KOWALLIK	07-18-1978
	4,169,688		TOSHIO	10-02-1979
	4,242,390		NEMETH	12-30-1980

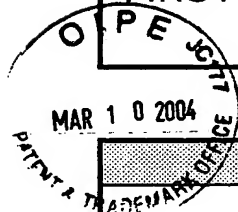
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Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
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ATTORNEY'S DKT No.
033462-037APPLICATION No.
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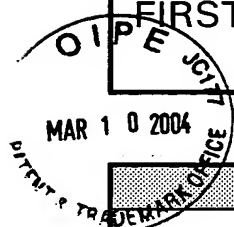
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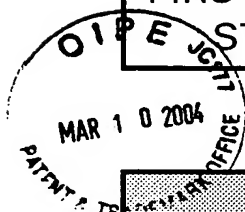
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